Setting up of computer system in agricultural market yards

2099. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electronic Corporation of India Limited has developed a computer system for effective and fruitful functioning of agricultural market yards; and

(b) whether Governmnet propose to set up this computer system in all market yards in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Prices of Agricultural Implements

2100. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cost of agricultural implements such as Tractors, Power Tillers and Combine Harvesters are very high and beyond the reach of average farmers;

(b) if so, whaat steps are proposed to be taken to bring down the price of those implements; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the subsidy to farmers for the purchase of Tractors during the current year and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) There is no statutory control on the Prices of Tractors, Power tillers and combine Harvesters. Tractors of engine capacity not exceeding 1800 cubic centimeters (CC), power tillers and combine harvesters are fully exempted from central excise duty Government have also reduced excise duty on tractors of engine capacity exceeding 1000 cc from 17.25% (basic 15 per cent) to 10 per cent.

(c) The outlay under the scheme nas been increased to Rs. 10.00 crores during 1993-94, as compared to Rs. 5.00 crores during 1992-93. There is, however, no change in the maximum subsidy available per tractor.

Setting up of farmers agro services centre in U.P.

2101. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will tre Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up Farmers Agro Service Centres in U.P., Haryana and if so, the details thereof including the details of Agricultural implements supplied in these centres; and

(b) the details of the amount spent on the establishment and implements of those centres during the last 3 years and whether any monitoring is being done to oversee their performance and if so; the details there of and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULITURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Establishment of Farmers Agro Service Centres for Custom Hiring and Popularisation of Animal Drawn Improved Agricultural Implements", was implemented from December, 1983 to 31st March, 1991. The establishment of Farmers Agro Service Centres was one of the three components, the other two being demonstration and supply of Improved animal drawn implement and handtools at subsidised rates to the farmers.

A suggestive list was given for equipping the farmers agro service centres for custom hiring. The items include were See-cum-Fertilizer Drill, Power